

***Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer***

# ***Mercer Corridor***

***Quarterly Update to City Council Transportation  
Committee  
July 12, 2005***

***Get Seattle Moving***



Seattle Department of Transportation

July 12, 2005

## *City Council Direction*

- Endorsed Two-way Mercer
- Requested additional analyses
- Requested quarterly progress report

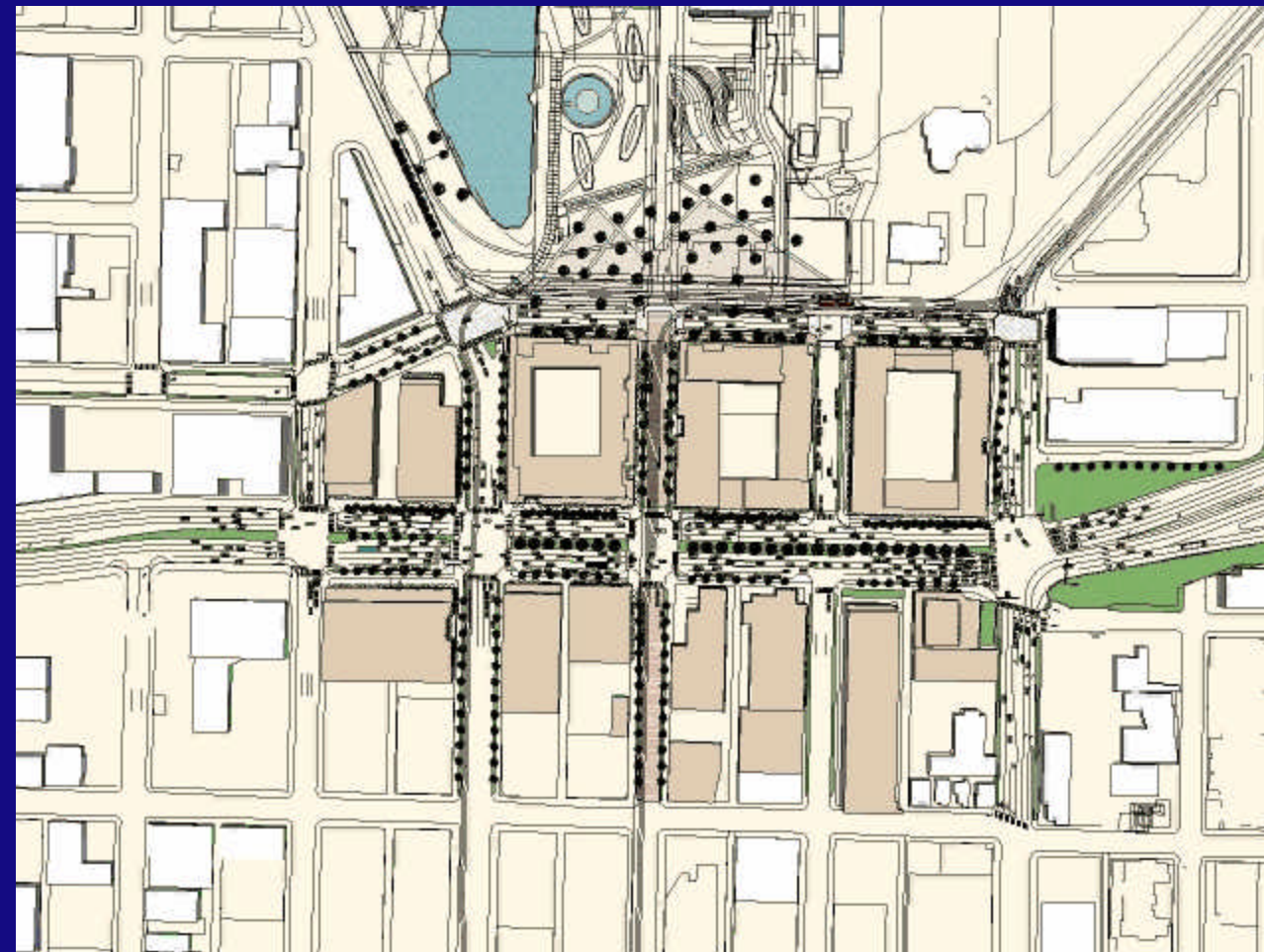


## ***Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer***

**Improve connection  
from I-5 for people  
and freight**

**Improve  
neighborhood  
access, circulation  
and safety**

**Support the City's  
goals for economic  
development and  
livability**



**Seattle Department of Transportation**

July 12, 2005

***Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer***

## ***Environmental Review Schedule***

**January 2006 NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA)**

**February 2006 Hearing on EA**

**Summer 2006 FHWA determination on EA**

**Summer 2006 SEPA determination based on EA**

**NEPA is National Environmental Policy Act**

**SEPA is State Environmental Policy Act**



**Seattle Department of Transportation**

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***Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer***

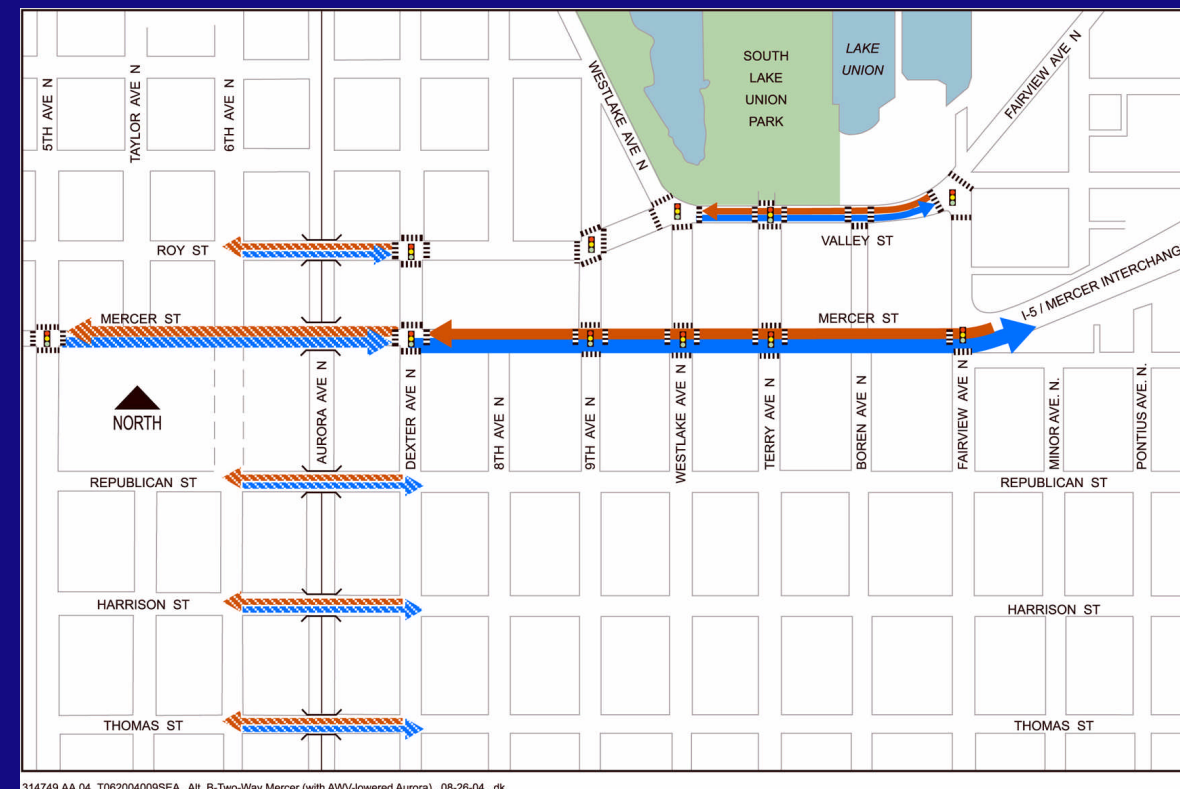
# ***What's Changed***

***2030 Traffic Analysis***

- Travel Demand Forecasting Model
- Lowered Aurora

## Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer

## What's Changed 2030 Traffic Analysis



- Lowered Aurora – part of “No Build” for Mercer



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## ***Travel Time Routes***

***2030 Traffic Analysis***



### **Key Routes**

- **I-5 and Mercer Garage**
- **I-5 and Fifth/Broad**

## Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer

### Two-Way Mercer vs No Build



### I-5 and Mercer Garage

- .....➔ No Build
- ➔ Two-way Mercer

WB - 3.7 min

EB + 1.2 min



## Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer

### Two-Way Mercer vs No Build



*I-5 and Fifth/Broad*

.....→ No Build  
——→ Two-way Mercer

**WB - 4.2 min**

**EB + 0.3 min**

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## ***Other Measures Requested by Council***



# ***Methodology***

*Other Measures Requested by Council*

- Travel Demand
- Traffic Operations
- Feasibility and Safety

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# ***Reversible Lanes***

***Other Measures Requested by Council***

- Traffic volumes increase
- Travel times decrease

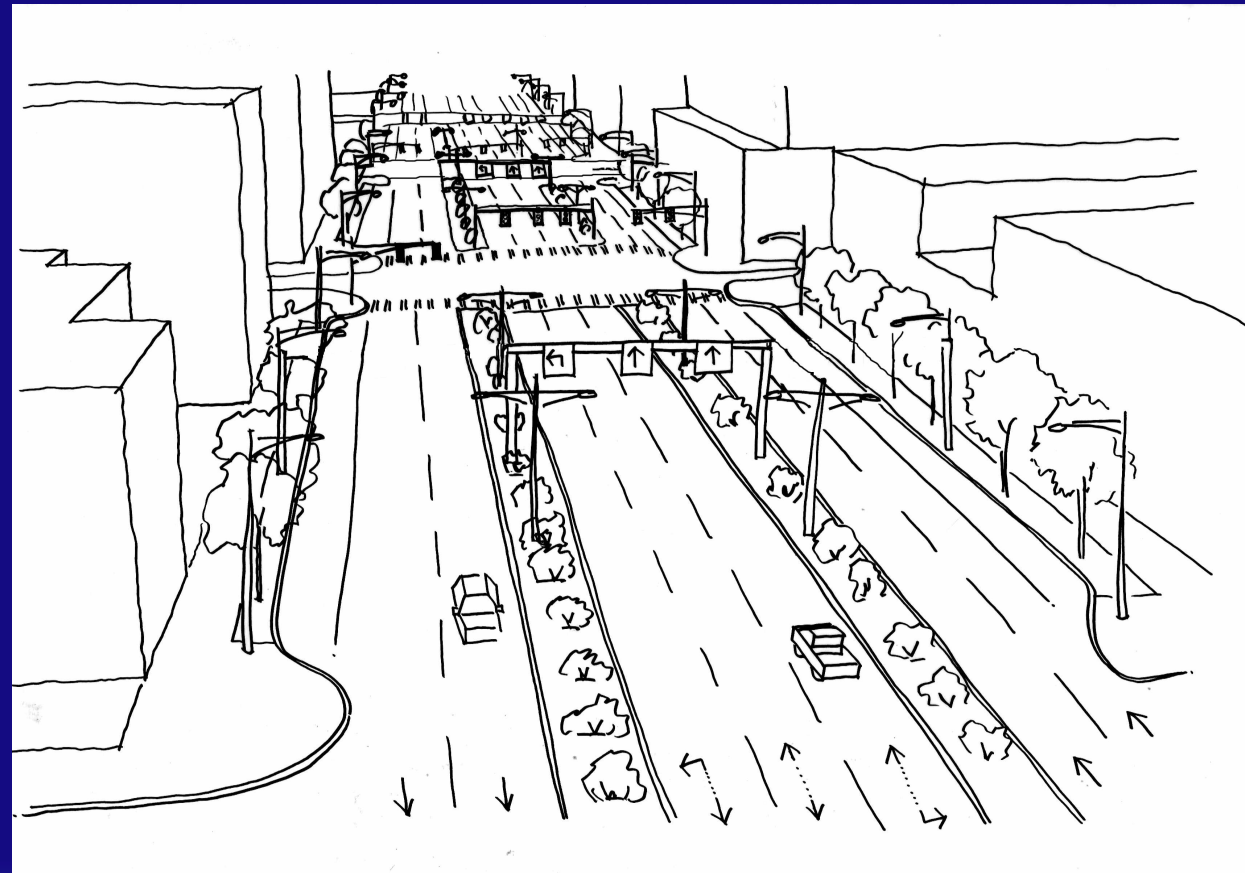


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## ***Reversible Lanes***

*Other Measures Requested by Council*

- Accident risk
- Pedestrian barrier
- Difficult access

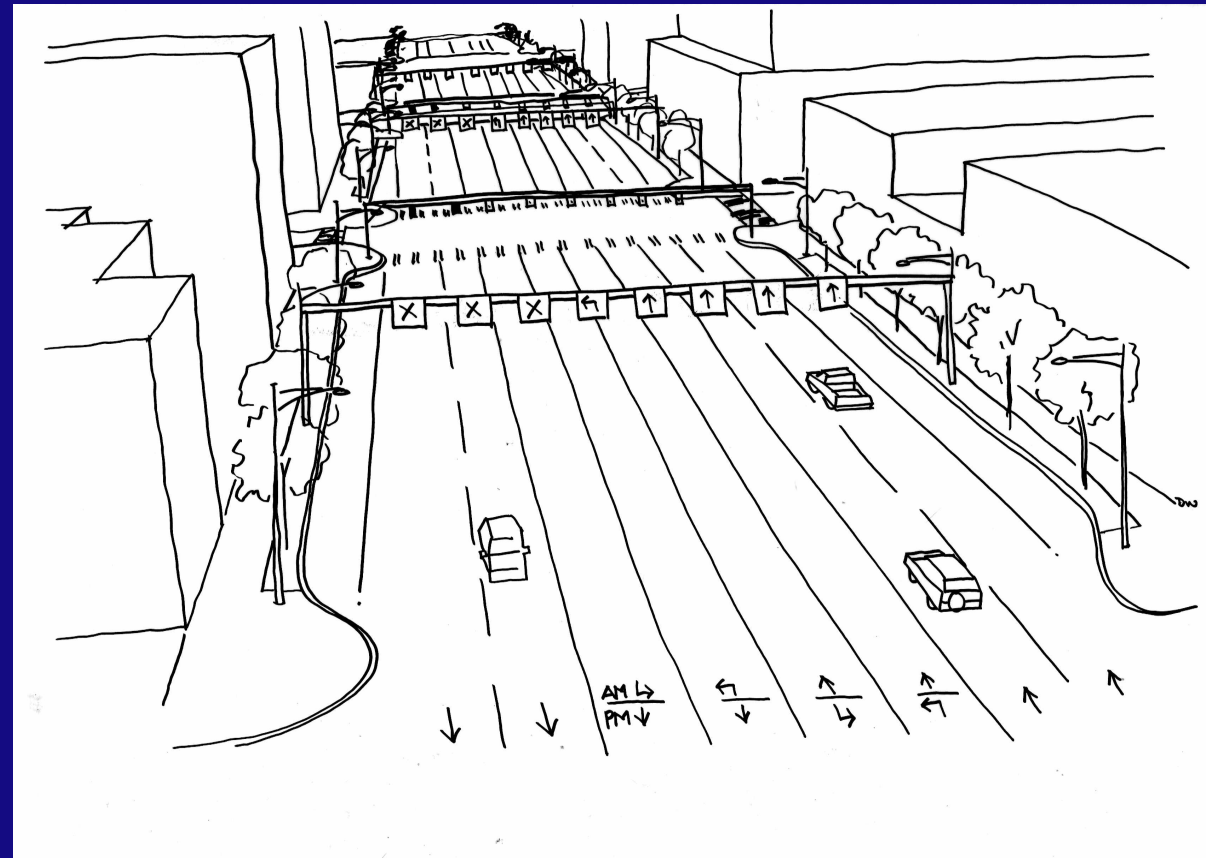




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# ***Reversible Lanes***

***Other Measures Requested by Council***



*Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer*

# ***Reversible Lanes***

*Other Measures Requested by Council*

## **Recommendation**

- **No further consideration**



## Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer

## ***Restrict Access from SR 520 to Mercer***

### ***Other Measures Requested by Council***

- Little change on Mercer
- Widening on I-5
- Limits access

## Recommendation

- **WSDOT**

# The “Mercer Weave”

 Seattle Department of Transportation

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## ***Add Capacity on Denny***

***Other Measures Requested by Council***

- Decrease Mercer travel time
- Increase Denny travel time
- Right of Way constraints

### **Recommendation**

- Evaluate independently
- Balance capacity with access



*Moving Forward on Two-Way Mercer*

## *Transit and Carpool on Mercer Express Ramps*

*Other Measures Requested by Council*

- Ramp volumes increase
- Little change on Mercer
- Potential transit benefit

### **Recommendation**

- WSDOT I-5 Study
- Holistic approach to Express Lanes





## *Next Steps*

- Public Open House  
June 29, 5-7:30 PM at the South Lake Union Armory
- Travel Demand Management Update
- Continue traffic analysis
- Environmental discipline reports